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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Troops at Vraca

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1. South of Vraca is the Vracanski Balkan Mountain, 800 m tall. At the foot of this mountain is an old barracks formerly known as the 35-er Barracks; it is in bad shape. A couple of new buildings were erected after World War II. The barracks complex has a capacity of 2,000 men. It consists of a one-story guardhouse, a two-story staff building, four two-story quarters buildings, a kitchen and dining room, a two-story hospital, a one-story canteen, various depot buildings, two stables, a bath, and a new quarters building, 27 by 70 m.

2. At present it is occupied by a regiment of the 6th Rifle Division

Commander: Major Cakaroff

The staff consists of 55 to 60 men. Regimental troops are: a heavy machine gun company, with four platoons, each of three squads, 80 men all told, equipped with 12 heavy machine guns, 8 Degtyarev light machine guns, 60 rifles; a machine pistol company of three platoons, each of three squads, equipped with Degtyarev machine pistols; a mortar company of four platoons, each of three squads, 80 men all told, equipped with eight 50 mm mortars, eight machine pistols, 60 rifles; a light AT company of four platoons, each of three squads, 80 to 85 men, equipped with nine 45 mm AT guns, eight machine pistols, 60 rifles; a medium AT platoon of two half-platoons, with two 76.2 mm AT guns, four machine pistols, 20 rifles; a medium mortar platoon of three squads, 32 to 35 men, equipped with two 82 mm mortars, four machine pistols, 15 rifles; a communications platoon, 35 men. Two battalions of the regiment are at Vraca, each with three companies, the companies consisting of 90 to 95 men, each having six machine pistols, nine light machine guns, 60 to 65 rifles. It is uncertain whether a third battalion exists.

3. The regiment received 400 recruits from the class of 1931 in October 1952. Only the medium AT platoon and the medium mortar platoon are motorized. The staff has three personnel cars and the quartermaster administration, 5 or 6 trucks. There are more than 110 horses.

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